Security to tourists

830. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what measures Government have proposed to initiate to ensure safety and security to the lives of Indian and foreign tourists visiting various places in India in view of the present day circumstances;

(b) what are the names of new areas which are being developed to attract tourists at places of historic importance and of tourists, interest at different places;

(c) whether Government plans to invite participation of private developers, professionals or companies in any way in the promotion of tourism; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) Law and order is a subject which falls under the purview of the concerned State/Union Territory. However, in order to ensure the safety and security of tourists, the Ministry of Tourism has advised the State Governments/Union Territories to deploy Tourist Police at important tourist centres.

(b) Development of tourist places is primarily the responsibility of the concerned States/UT Government. The Ministry of Tourism extends Central Financial Assistance to the States/UT Government for development of tourist places which are prioritized in consultation with them. The new niche products which are being developed are Rural Tourism, AdventureTourism, Medical Tourism and Cruise Tourism.

(c) and (d) Private sector participation is encouraged in promotion of different segments of tourism sector. Various marketing tools like brochures support, advertising support, joint promotion, road shows etc. are also used in collaboration with the tourism and travel industry to promote India in overseas markets.